



IS IT TRUE THAT EVERYONE NEEDS A FAMILY?



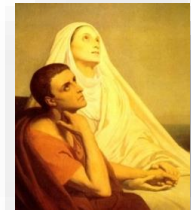
#373: How should a family live its faith together?

A Christian family should be a miniature church. All Christian family members are invited to strengthen one another in faith and to outdo one another in their zeal for God. They should pray for and with each other and collaborate in works of charity. Parents stand in for their children with their own faith, have them baptized, and serve as their models of faith. That means that parents should make it possible for their children to experience how valuable and beneficial it is to live in the familiar presence of the loving God. At some time, however, the parents, too, will learn from their children's faith and hear how God speaks through them, because the faith of young people is often accompanied by greater devotion and generosity.

SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES

St Monica

St Monica is the mother of St Augustine, who was a great sinner turned saint. St Monica shows us how important it is to pray for your family members and to be an example of faith for them. She also shows us that patience pays off when it comes to bringing your family closer to God.



St James

St James was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. His brother was St John and his father was Zebedee, who raised his boys to be faithful to God. By calling brothers to be his apostles, Jesus shows us how important it is to support your family and practice your faith together.



GOSPEL



ANSWERS

Jesus went down with his parents and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

– Luke 2: 41-52

ANSWER IN YOUR OWN WORDS: